

Egg Harbor Township Recreation Commission Meeting
EHT Community Center 5045 English Creek Avenue
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

7:00 pm

Minutes

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

III. Opening Statement Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act

IV. Roll Call: Robert Fairfield, Chair - Present Charles Gallagher - Present
Carmen Messina, Vice Chair -Present Justin Riggs -Excused
Toni Rispoli - Present Paul Weldon – Present
Kathy Fiedor - Present Kevin Stetser - Present
William Warrell - Present

Rick Audet – Director of Recreation- Present

V. Reading/Acceptance of Minutes

a. Minutes – March 8, 2017

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Warrell. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Messina. The minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0.

VI. EHT Recognized Youth Sports Groups – Presidents Presentations

EHTYO-

President Domenic Branca, 23 Evergreen Ave., EHT inquired whether any progress had been made with getting a sign posted at the entrance of Veteran’s Park. Director Audet indicated that he would speak with Township Administrator Miller. The installation of a sign has the endorsement of the Recreation Commission.

Jr. Wrestling-

Vice President Kara Driscoll, 7 Shadow Drive, EHT, inquired whether a building to house Jr. Wrestling had been located. Director Audet explained that a building for wrestling was not an option at this time. Kara stated that she would like to meet with Administrator Miller to discuss finding a place for wrestling. Commissioner Warrell indicated that he would like to attend the meeting. Chairman Fairfield spoke with Administrator Miller and Committee Woman Pfrommer concerning the rental of a vacant store. They questioned who would pay the rental, as the Township would not. Kara announced that thirteen wrestlers qualified for the National Championship in Maryland. She reiterated that that the wrestlers needed more time to practice, especially before this meet.

Commissioner Fiedor stated that when the Community Center was built, the auxiliary gym was supposed to be the wrestling room.

Director Audet explained that wrestling relinquished one of their gym nights after one year of use. They asked for two nights a week, which was Tuesday and Thursday. The Karate program had grown and was moved into the auxiliary gym on Monday, Wednesday and every other Friday.

President Driscoll stated that the wrestlers need to practice four times a week during their season, from November through April. Kara explained that wrestling paid \$2700.00 to the EHTBOE for use of the Fernwood Middle School for their last tournament. \$1400.00 of that fee was for the custodians and five guards.. Next year the BOE will charge wrestling \$25.00 per hour for use of the school's mat.

Vice-Chair Messina asked whether a price for an additional mat had been obtained. Kara indicated that she would contact the previous vendor for a price including the mat bags. Commissioner Rispoli indicated that the purchase of an additional wrestling mat is slated in the 2018 Capital Budget.

Kara asked for a key to the auxiliary gym. Director Audet said he would obtain one.

EHT Soccer-

President Christine Gras, 19 Jefferson Ave., EHT, asked whether signs would be placed where the AED would be housed. She asked whether Soccer had to provide the signs. Director Audet indicated that Public Works would install the signs, once soccer receives them. He reminded Christine that certified AED training was necessary.

Water to the bathrooms will be turned on at the end of March.

EHT Street Hockey-

Gary Adams, 108 Ruby Drive, EHT advised that the stand had been turned over to BMX. The EHT Phantom's signs had been ripped down.

VII. Public Comment

Closed session 7:19 p.m. The attendees were asked to leave the meeting room.

Commissioner Fiedor made a motion to proceed with a closed session to review all pertinent information regarding EHTYO's decision to remove a coach. Commissioner Weldon seconded the motion. All Commissioners concurred with the motion.

Commissioner Stetser asked why a meeting regarding the issue of the removal of a YO coach had occurred and the entire Commission had not been brought up to speed. Chairman Fairfield advised that he, Commissioner Warrell and Director Audet met with Administrator Miller and Committee Woman Pfrommer to discuss the Recreation Commission's authority to overturn EHTYO's decision.

Commissioner Fiedor stated that three months have passed since the issue was brought to the Commission's attention. All the information from that meeting should have been divulged to the entire Commission prior to this meeting.

Commissioner Warell cited the 11TH Edition of Roberts Rules, page 407, wherein it explains conflict of interest. It indicates that no one can be compelled to refrain from voting unless it pertains to monetary personable gain.

Chairman Fairfield asked for the meeting with Director Audet, Committee Woman Pfrommer and Administrator Miller to ensure that there was not a conflict with Roberts Rules.

Vice-Chair Messina stated that the meeting was for clarification. Any additional information would have been shared with the entire Commission.

Commissioner Warrell stated that he needed clarification concerning whether by-laws would supersede Roberts Rules. Administrator Miller advised that by-laws come first, then Roberts Rules.

Commissioner Rispoli added that the Recreation Commission needs full disclosure.

Commissioner Fiedor said that we all are aware of the violations at the fields where there is alcohol and tobacco involved.

Vice-Chair Messina added that the Commission's job is to determine whether EHTYO broke any by-law with regard to removing a coach.

Closed session ended 7:50 p.m. Attendees were invited back into the meeting room.

Motion to resume was made by Vice-Chair Messina and seconded by Commissioner Fiedor. 8-0 vote to resume the meeting.

VIII. Old Business

a. Bob Wright appeal of YO Removal from Program

Commissioner Warrell made a motion to dismiss Mr. Wright's appeal based on no violation of EHTYO's by-laws. The Commission does not have the authority to overturn the decision since there is no evidence that a by-law was broken. Vice-Chair Messina seconded the motion. A vote was taken on the motion. By a vote of 5-3, EHTYO's decision to remove Bob Wright as a coach was upheld. Commissioners Fiedor, Stetser and Weldon were the dissenting votes.

IX. Use of Facility Requests

X. Director's Report

Director Audet spoke about Bargaintown Park serving the needs of adult groups. Rick indicated that the EHT Orioles and the Over 45 Men's league have used Bargaintown Park for years. They have been granted field use on Sundays. He will give other groups requesting use of Bargaintown Park reasonable access. Rick will contact all field use applicants to advise him of days and times Bargaintown Park may be available. Township Committee are in the process of reviewing the Field Use fees.

XI. New Business

Code of Conduct

Commissioner Rispoli made a motion that the Presidents of all of the Youth Boards receive a letter from the Recreation Commission regarding conduct at the parks. Each Park has a sign indicating that alcohol use is prohibited. Township Committee passed an ordinance with regard to no smoking in the parks. Commissioner Weldon seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0. Director Audet will compose a letter and each President shall have it read, in its entirety, into their minutes.

XII. Correspondence

EHT Youth Group Minutes

- A. Baseball Association –last received 2/2/17
- B. BMX –last received 10/25/16
- C. Diamond Cheer
- D. Jr. Wrestling – 2/14/17
- E. Lacrosse – 2/7/17
- F. Soccer Club – last received 1/10/17
- G. Street Hockey Association –12/19/16, 1/9.1/30.2/27/17
- H. Travel Basketball – last received 2/9/17
- I. Youth Softball – last received 2/7/17
- J. Youth Organization – last received 2/1/17

Handouts

- a. Street Hockey financials report
- b. Buildings and Ground Report
- c. EHT Lacrosse Association – 2017 game schedules, rosters, practice schedules on file in the office.

XIII. Tabled Matters

XIV. Public Comment re-opened at 8:20 p.m.

EHTYO-

President Branca stated that the issue with alcohol and smoking at Veteran’s Park has not fallen on deaf ears. He will work to get it under control. The letter from the Recreation Commission will help reinforce the issues.

EHT Soccer-

President Gras will advertise registration dates for the 2017 Fall Travel Soccer league.

XV. Adjournment 8:35 p.m.

Motion was made by Commissioner Weldon	Seconded by Commissioner Fiedor
Vote	8-0

Robert Fairfield, Chairman

Toni Rispoli, Secretary

**These minutes were approved at the April 12, 2017
Recreation Commission Meeting**
